P24980.a02

<u>REMARKS</u>

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment

prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

Applicant notes that the instant amendment has been prepared to clarify the

description of the invention and eliminate multiply dependent claims, so that the

disclosure and claims are presented in better form for U.S. patent prosecution.

Further, Applicant notes that the scope of the claims has not been narrowed for

any reasons related to a basis of patentability, and, therefore, that no estoppel

should attach.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

Alain FOUERE et al.

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Reg. No. 28,394

June 18, 2004

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